

Message Text

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72

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7360

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US

SUBJ: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY MARCH 28

1. FOLLOWING SUMMARY COVERS SOVIET PRESS EVENING OF MARCH 27 AND MORNING OF MARCH 28.

2. COVERAGE OF SECRETARY'S VISIT. PRAVDA, FOR THE FOURTH DAY IN A ROW, FEATURES THE VISIT ON PAGE ONE, CARRYING THE COMMUNIQUE ON WEDNESDAY'S TALKS. A 10-INCH TASS STORY ON PAGE 4 DESCRIBES THE SECRETARY'S LUNCHEON FOR GROMYKO. IN A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE TOASTS, PRAVDA EMPHASIZES THE DESIRE EXPRESSED BY BOTH SIDES TO IMPROVE BILATERAL RELATIONS. GROMYKO'S REMARKS ON SOVIET COLLECTIVE SUPPORT FOR THAT POLICY ARE CITED. HIS WORDS ON "FURTHER STEPS" ARE STRENGTHENED IN ATHE PRAVDA VERSION TO READ "NEW CONCRETE STEPS." AND NEITHER THE SECRETARY'S REFERENCE TO "TEMPORARY OBSTACLES" NOR GROMYKO'S REFERENCE TO "PROBLEMS" IS PICKED UP.

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3. CIA IN ARGENTINA. AN ARGENTINE JOURNALIST, WRITING IN

PRAVDA, DESCRIBES THE EFFORTS OF RIGHT-WING FORCES TO UPSET THE PERON GOVERNMENT AND CHARGES THE CIA WITH WORKING OUT A "PLAN ARCHANGEL" TO THAT END. HE SAYS AMERICAN IMPERIALISM SEEKS TO CREATE CONDITIONS FOR A COUP IN THE CHILEAN STYLE.

4. MIDDLE EAST. PRAVDA CARRIES A TASS STORY FROM CAIRO REPORTING AL-AKHBAR'S DEFENSE OF NASSER AGAINST HIS CURRENT DETRACTORS IN THE EGYPTIAN PRESS. PRAVDA ALSO RUNS A TASS ACCOUNT OF THE SYRIAN CHARGE THAT ISRAELI ARTILLERY AND TANKS HAD RENEWED FIRING ON SYRIAN FORWARD POSITIONS ON THE CENTRAL AND NORTHERN PARTS OF THE CEASE-FIRE LINE.

5. ANTI-CHINESE ARTICLES IN PRAVDA, FROM MONGOLIAN AND BURMESE PAPERS, ARE MORE PROMINENT THAN USUAL. THE MONGOLIAN ITEM PLAYS UP THE USE OF TERROR BY MAO TSE-TUNG, WHO "DEMANDS NEW VICTIMS AND NEW BLOOD." THE BURMESE ITEM HINTS THAT BURMESE "WHITE FLAG" REBELS ARE GETTING HELP FROM CHINA.

6. NORTH KOREAN PROPOSAL. IZVESTIYA COMMENTATOR YU. SHTYKANOV REPORTS FAVORABLY ON THE NORTH KOREAN LETTER TO THE U.S. CONGRESS PROPOSING A PEACE AGREEMENT BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND THE U.S. SHTYKANOV NOTES THAT THE PRESENCE OF 40,000 U.S. TROOPS UNDER THE UN FLAG IS ONE OF THE CAUSES OF TENSION IN THE AREA AND IS INCOMPATIBLE WITH PEACE IN THE FAR EAST. PRAVDA GIVES PROMINENT PLAY ON ITS INTERNATIONAL PAGE TO THE NORTH KOREAN PROPOSAL.
STOESSEL

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